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AGENDA

Technical and Scientific Facilities

Monday, 9 November 1981

Room 2E-29

- 0900 - Welcome and Introduction
Working Group Chairman, NFAC 25X1
- 0915 - Discussion of the Computer Aided Design and
Interactive Graphics Point Paper. Comment
and Review
- 1015 - Break
- 1030 - Presentation on Economic Modeling and Modeling
Issues
 NFAC 25X1
- 1130 - Lunch
- 1300 - Discussion of Modeling and Mathematical Analysis
Point Paper. Comment and Review
- 1415 - Break
- 1430 - Presentation on Array Processor Assessment
 ODP 25X1
- 1530 - Discussion of Special Machinery Point Paper.
Comment and Review
- 1630 - Adjourn

Tuesday, 10 November 1981

Room 4F-31

- 0945 - Discussion of Tentative Goals and Objectives.
Instructions for Working Group
Chairman, 25X1

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PLAN FOR IHSs STRATEGIC PLAN

TASK	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Phase I: Objectives Def.												
Working Group Session (Phased)												
Synthesis												
Report to Senior Mgt.												
Phase II: Implementation Planning												
Dev. of Planning Guidance												
Planning (Parallel)												
Phase III: Dev. of Integrated Plan												
Dev. of Rough Draft Strategic Plan												
Report to Senior Mgt.												
Phase IV: Reconciliation												
Reconciliation with Budget												
Dev. of Final Report												
Report to Senior Mgt.												

Legend



Documentation



Presentation

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OVERVIEW PAPER

WORKING PAPER

Technical and Scientific Facilities

I. Background

In this era of increased automation, the Agency increasingly relies on "computerized" methods for meeting its objectives. This is especially apparent in the areas which receive high visibility due to commercial advances and areas which are particularly germane to the Agency's mission. Office automation, information dissemination, and security all come to mind and we see general functions or systems like "Word Processors" and SAFE systems being used and/or implemented.

However, the areas of specific user needs, while often less visible, are also impacted by technical advances. The Scientific and Technical Facilities within the Agency which are available to users must be assessed as to their adequacy and use. If we are to take advantage of these advances in our analytical process we must be aware of them and define our objectives and goals in using them.

II. Scope

This area has been broken down into three subjects:

- Computer Aided Design and Interactive Graphics
- Modeling and Mathematical Analysis
- Special Machinery

Although there is not a clear break between them, they are believed to encompass a large portion of the functionalities perceived to be needed to support the Agency's analytical mission. Additional topics may be included if they are deemed relevant.

III. Approach

Attached are point papers covering each area. They are intended to provide background information as well as to focus on issues pertinent to the Agency. These papers will be used as "talking papers" in the working group and it is hoped they will elicit the views of the various users of these facilities.

Within each paper are relatively specific questions concerning each area. To the extent possible the questions are intended to quantify specific user needs in the specific areas. It should be emphasized that this need assessment is not a commitment and does not guarantee a capability. The goals and objectives we have to establish will be used as general criteria toward which the Agency can proceed.

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Attached also are copies of the description of a high speed parallel processor and the description of a parallel processing technique used for graphic purposes. These are included for your information with respect to the subject matter and to illustrate that these areas are not trivial matters. Needs for these facilities will dictate that the Agency acquire and maintain the expertise necessary to efficiently implement them as we move from the "office automation" implementation era into the era of sophisticated technical processing.

IV. Top Level Questions

The governing question for this issue area is the magnitude and character of the technical processing requirement foreseen for the 1985-1989 time period. If it grows as significantly as the internal needs and external technological advances indicate it might, then accommodating it is going to require a sharply focused response. Such a response will involve investment, in new types of hardware, architectural innovation, new software, and special personnel resources. The implementation issues are complex, and would be addressed in the next phase of this strategic planning.

The more specific aspects of this concern are:

- What scientific and mathematical facilities do the Agency require to meet analytical needs in the 1985-1989 timeframe? What is their scope, expected use, and relative level of need?
- Given that there is a need for specialized scientific and mathematical facilities, what steps should be taken to acquire the expertise to define, acquire, install and maintain them? What is the funding, planning, timing, and environmental requirements necessary to meet these needs?
- In rough terms, what computer capabilities (power, speed, systems, hardware, etc.) are required to meet these needs? What qualitative aspects in terms of growth, size of user community and changed capabilities are perceived?

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